

LEPIDOPTERA STAMPS MODIFIED FOR PHILATELIC SHOWS

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Upon purchasing a souvenir sheet that was said to have been overprinted for a philatelic show, I became interested in what is known about such issues. The souvenir sheet that was purchased was the hologram stamp of Poland from 1991.

The illustration of this is attached with the original stamp above and the overprinted stamp below. This sheet was modified for the show in Anaheim, California, July 7-16, 2000. If this sheet was really overprinted as stated one should be able to see the original printing with the use of a strong light. This can be done, but this overprint is quite clever as it does not show the original printing otherwise. However, this overprinted sheet differs from the original in that it is numbered in the lower right hand corner. Also, this sheet was probably not used for postal use, but only as a souvenir, sold only at the show.

My question would then be, are there other shows that this same sheet was overprinted in a like manner? Also, are there other butterfly or moth stamps from other countries which were overprinted in this manner?

One issue that has been seen, and is listed in most catalogues, is the Australian Zoo Souvenir sheet of 1994, which was overprinted four different times for four shows that same year. Another which I have not seen, but found in Stanley Gibbon's Catalogue, is the Isle of Man butterfly set of 1993. This set was overprinted (probably on the margin of the sheets of 10) for the shows "Philakorea 1994" and Singpex 1994".

Can anyone shed more light on this subject of special overprints for stamp shows which were not regular issues?

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From the Editor:

I can think of a number that were issued specifically for stamps shows, but Indonesia 1533 was overprinted for Indopex '93, Surabaya and issued as 1540.

Also, if I remember correctly, Micronesia 182a-b and 183a-b came out in blocks of 4 from the printed sheets. They also appeared (as 190) in a block of 4 with Hong Kong'94 Stamp Exhibition, the Designer's name and a control number (Limited Edition of 25,000) in the selvage around the block. I

imagine the printer just blocked out a number of stamps on the original sheets make-up and printed the additional details in the spaces remaining.
Hopefully someone will be able to contribute more examples.



Figure 1. Original Poland Hologram Sheet.



Figure 2. Overprinted for the Expo. 2000 Show in Anaheim.